

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



PCT

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Translation

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference 1H907750/3WOA | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/FR2003/002260 | International filing date (day/month/year) 17 juillet 2003 (17.07.2003) | Priority date (day/month/year) 18 juillet 2002 (18.07.2002) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B60N 3/04 | | |
| Applicant HV DEVELOPPEMENT, S.A.R.L. | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 1 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

| | |
|--|--|
| Date of submission of the demand 18 février 2004 (18.02.2004) | Date of completion of this report 03 December 2004 (03.12.2004) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR2003/002260

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.):

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-7, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the claims, Nos. _____, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. 1-7, filed with the letter of 29 October 2004 (29.10.2004),
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/FR 03/02260

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1 - 7 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1 - 7 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1 - 7 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

For purposes of clarity, claim 1 is interpreted as follows:

A vehicle fitting, in particular an additional mat, characterised in that it includes a peripheral cord surrounding the outer edge of said fitting, **on the upper surface, the side surface and the lower surface of said fitting**, wherein said cord is provided with hook-and-loop-type elements or the like on at least two side edges of the fitting and on the lower surface thereof.

Prior art

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP-A-0 560 557 (FORMOSA SAINT JOSE CORP) 15 September 1993

Document D1 describes an additional mat for a vehicle, provided on the lower surface and on the outer edge thereof with a hook-and-loop-type strip or the like, and intended for covering the vehicle floor.

Problem

Providing the hook-and-loop-type strips requires an additional operation during manufacture, which operation is carried out after the conventional application of the peripheral cord that generally surrounds the mat.

Solution

Providing hook-and-loop-type elements directly on the peripheral cord, thereby avoiding a second operation during the manufacture of the mat.

These features are not known from the available prior art, nor can they be derived in an obvious manner therefrom.

Claims 2 to 7 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet, as such, the requirements of novelty and inventive step of the PCT.